

## Message Text

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44

ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66603

DRAFTED BY: NEA/RA:SDSCHIFF

APPROVED BY: NEA/AR - STANLEY D SCHIFF

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P 201633Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 142861

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON TEHRAN ISLAMABAD  
NEW DELHI FROM ANKARA JULY 19

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5719

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, AF, CENTO

SUBJ: AFGHAN COUP AND CENTO

1. CENTO SYG ASSAR CALLED ON ME JULY 18 TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS  
FOR CENTO OF AFGHAN COUP. HE BELIEVED IT NECESSARY THAT, FOR  
PUBLIC RELATIONS REASONS, HE BE ABLE TO SAY THAT CENTO WAS TAKING  
AN INTEREST IN AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS, IF ASKED BY THE PRESS.

2. I ADVISED CAUTION AND SUGGESTED THAT, IF ASKED, HE CONFINE  
HIMSELF  
TO STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, WE HAVE  
BEEN FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN WITH INTEREST.

3. A REGULAR COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR  
MONDAY, JULY 23. ASSAR WANTS TO SPEND A FEW MINUTES WITH ME  
(AND PERHAPS CERTAIN OTHER OF THE DEPUTIES) MONDAY,  
JUST BEFORE MEETING, TO DISCUSS WHAT CENTO SHOULD SAY OR DO  
ABOUT AFGHANISTAN. ASSAR BELIEVES THAT, AS A COUNTRY LYING  
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BETWEEN TWO CENTO MEMBERS, AFGHANISTAN

DESERVES SOME CENTO EXAMINATION. ASSAR, AS A PERSIAN, PROBABLY  
WILL BE MUCH INFLUENCED BY WHATEVER THE SHAH'S ATTITUDE MAY BE  
ON AFGHAN COUP.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE BEFORE  
MONDAY MEETING.  
MACOMBER  
UNQUOTE RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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